

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Friday, February 25, 1977

10:00 o'clock a.m.

DOYLE G. BERRY,

Chairman.

Wild Life and Fisheries  
Building  
400 Royal Street, Room 102  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter



Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.  
*Stenotypists*

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . . The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened on Friday, February 25, 1977, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in Room 102, Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Doyle G. Berry, Chairman, presiding.

### PRESENT WERE:

· DOYLE G. BERRY, Chairman  
· DONALD F. WILLE, Vice Chairman  
· MARC DUPUY, JR., Member  
J. C. GILBERT, Member  
· HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Member  
J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director.

## A G E N D A

1. Approval of minutes of January 28, 1977. (5)
- DR. LYLE ST. AMANT
2. Request for permit to dredge fill material (5)  
from the Mississippi River at Station  
5606 to Station 5621 by Atlas Construc-  
tion Co., Inc.
3. Atlas Construction Company, Inc. requests (7)



renewal of permit dated February 24, 1977 to remove sand, gravel or fill materials from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP to Mile 51 AHP, vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

4. Atlas Construction Company, Ind. requests renewal of permit dated February 24, 1977, to remove sand, gravel, or fill materials from the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. (8)
  5. Louisiana Materials Company, Inc. requests a permit to dredge sand, gravel and/or fill material within the area of Mile Post 150 AHP to Mile Post 153 AHP of the Mississippi River. (10)
  6. Discussion of opening 5-day white shrimp season before regular shrimp season. (11)
- MR. HARRY SCHAFFER
7. Discussion of extending oyster season in Calcasieu Lake (west side only). (16)
  8. Discussion of rules and regulations for bait shrimp season. (17)



MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER

9. Donation of land within Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area. (21)

TED O'NEIL

10. Discussion of extending trapping season. (27)

MR. JOE HERRING

11. School board lease renewal on Georgia-Pacific Wildlife Management Area. (30)
12. Individual landowners lease renewal on Cities Service Wildlife Management Area. (32)
13. Discussion of proposed 1977 turkey season in the Diamond-Island Area, Madison and Tensas Parishes. (35)

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Set date for March meeting. (49)

Note: The following items not on the printed agenda were also considered:

Comments re land acquisition, Mr. McGovern, Wildlife Federation. (42)

Enforcement, Lake Pontchartrain. (44)

Introduction of guests. (46)

Enforcement Division yearly report. (42)



CHAIRMAN BERRY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We will now come to order. We will move along quickly with the agenda here and after that is completed we will hear the Sierra Club Gifford-Hill appeal matter.

The first item of business is the approval of the minutes of meeting of January 28, 1977. Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I move approval.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

Dr. St. Amant.

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have five items on the agenda this morning. Four of them deal with written requests for permits.

The first is a request for permit to



dredge fill material from the Mississippi River at Station 5606 to Station 5621 by Atlas Construction Company. We have examined this request. It is a standard permit request and we would recommend that the permit be granted for one year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission does hereby grant permis-  
sion to the Atlas Construction Com-  
pany, Inc. to remove fill material



from the Mississippi River at Station 5606 to Station 5621, for a period of one year from February 25, 1977 to February 25, 1978.

DR. ST. AMANT: The second item is a request from Atlas Construction Company, Inc. for renewal of permit dated February 24, 1977 to remove sand, gravel or fill materials from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP to Mile 51 AHP, in the vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. This permit has been functioning satisfactorily and in view of the fact that there have been no problems with it, I would recommend renewal for one year at five cents a cubic yard.

MR. GILBERT: You say it is dated February 24. When will it start?

DR. ST. AMANT: We ask them to renew one month ahead of time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Do I hear a motion?

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell,



seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Com-  
mission does hereby grant permission  
to the Atlas Construction Company, Inc.  
to remove sand, gravel and fill material  
from the Mississippi River at Mile 50  
AHP to Mile 51 AHP, vicinity of Woodland,  
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a  
period of one year from February 24,  
1977 to February 24, 1978.

DR. ST. AMANT: The next item is another  
request by Atlas Construction Co. for renewal of  
permit to remove sand, gravel or fill materials from  
the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP in the vicin-  
ity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.





These permits are issued for one year from the date thereof and one month before they expire they are put back on the agenda to be acted upon, so the date of this will be February 24. I recommend such permit be granted for a period of one year at a rate of 5 cents per cubic yard.

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Atlas Construction Company, Inc. to remove sand, gravel or fill



material from the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from February 24, 1977 to February 24, 1978.

DR. ST. AMANT: Next is a request from Louisiana Materials Company, Inc. for a permit to dredge sand, gravel and/or fill material within the area of Mile Post 150 AHP to Mile Post 153 AHP of the Mississippi River. We have examined this request and it meets all the requirements, so we would recommend it be granted for a period of one year at five cents.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.



(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Louisiana Materials Company to remove sand, gravel and/or fill material from the Mississippi River in the area of Mile Post 150 AHP to Mile Post 153 AHP, for a period of one year from February 25, 1977 to February 25, 1978.

DR. ST. AMANT: If it is permissible, I would like to remove this "five-day" statement and discuss the opening of the white shrimp season before the regular shrimp season.

As you know, a law passed in the state legislature allows this Commission to open the season other than the regular season when sufficient marketable shrimp are available to make it economically feasible. At certain times in certain segments of the Coast these shrimp appear in



late April in sufficient numbers to make it feasible to have a short season before our normal season opens sometime in May.

The problem last year was that we took this action on an emergency basis at the April meeting and while the season was very successful, with a catch of about 1.5 million pounds with a value of \$3 million, we did have a problem with the timing being insufficient for proper advertising.

In order to avoid that problem, what we are now asking is that the Commission authorize the Director, Mr. Angelle, and the staff to examine the possibility of a white shrimp season, take the necessary samples and do the necessary technical surveys, and if, and I repeat if, it appears that fishable populations occur in certain areas during April, we would like to be able to open the season for a short period of time. This season may last two or three days, or as much as five or six days, but the length of the season depends upon the availability of the shrimp.

We also propose that in the event we



foresee the possibility of such a season between now and the April meeting that we advertise adequately so that the industry will know about it and give them an opportunity for input concerning this.

I repeat that we are requesting the authority to set such a season if there are shrimp available and that this is not a declaration of such a season.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Is there discussion?

MR. DUPUY: Just one question. When you speak of having the industry having the opportunity of input into the possibility of a season, are you speaking of another hearing or something like that, or just letters and that sort of thing?

DR. ST. AMANT: No, what happened last year was we had some problems in advertising the thing to let them know it was going to open. This meeting today has been published. The people in the industry know that we are considering this, and at sometime in March or early April if we think there might be a shrimp season, we will put



out a news release stating that we are considering it and we will take any public comments on it, and if people want to call in or write in about the thing, they can, and from this and the technical data that we develop, we will make a decision.

What we are trying to do in this instance is set it up in advance so we will have adequate notification to everybody.

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have a motion by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion on it? All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, biologists of the  
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries



Commission, during the past several years, have found that there were harvestable amounts of white shrimp in certain portions of the Louisiana coastal nursery areas, and

WHEREAS, the four-day white shrimp season set by the Commission beginning Tuesday, April 27, 1976, proved to be economically successful, and

WHEREAS, the biologists for the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission have not uncovered any adverse effects on that special season,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby give the Director the authority to set a short special white shrimp season prior to the opening of the brown shrimp season if and when white shrimp are found in the nursery areas in sufficient numbers to justify a season.



THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant. We will call Harry Schafer now.

MR. HARRY SCHAFFER: Mr. Chairman, you will recall we set an oyster season for Calcasieu Lake and that season is scheduled to close on March 31. It has been a successful season and our field people tell us they probably will have harvested about 100,000 sacks valued at about \$8 a sack, which has a total value of some \$800,000 for that area.

Most of these oysters have been caught on the east side. This is the first time that the east side has been fished. Good reefs have developed there and they are mostly single oysters, so most of the people have been staying on the east side. The west side still has quite a few oysters but they are in clusters and that is why the people have not fished them.

We would like to recommend that in order to get some of these reefs broken up and also to harvest some of these oysters that are still available that we extend the season for just the west side, that is the west cove, west of the Calcasieu





Ship Channel, through the month of April, and it will close at sunset, April 30.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Does anybody wish to be heard in the audience on that, make any comments?

MR. WILLE: I will so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, in 1976 the legislature passed Act 238, which set a bait shrimp season between the spring and fall shrimp seasons. It also authorized and directed the Commission to set up rules and regulations under which this season will be conducted.

We have a list of regulations that we would like you to consider for adoption, and they are similar to the ones that had been used when the Commission had the season operated under a



resolution by the Legislature.

Shall I go into them one at a time or just read the whole bunch? I have some copies here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anybody in the audience wish to make any comments on this? Anyone wish to be heard? We will let the Commission members take a look at it. Yes, sir, will you come to the microphone and state your name, please, and who you represent.

MR. LUTTRELL: We have copies we have studied.

THE CHAIRMAN: These are the same ones.

MR. MILTON DUDENHEFER: I am President of the East Bank Commercial Fishermen's Association.

We have been opposed to this bait shrimp law for some time and the reason for us being opposed to this law was mainly because of the lack of enforcement. We went against it a number of years ago and a lot of the fishermen are still against it, but there is a lot better regulation on it and we feel if we can get the proper enforcement, and this holds true for most of everything



connected with the Wild Life and Fisheries -- enforcement is getting to be a problem. We don't have enough enforcement on this particular thing. We only have a few bay fishermen that don't abide by the law, and we believe by proper enforcement it could be taken care of and it would satisfy all the fishermen.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Milton, if you will, take a look at these twelve rules that are included in these regulations and if you can give us the benefit of your thoughts on this, even though it is at a later date, the Commission still would have time to consider amending these regulations in time. You know, if there was anything you could add to it that would make for even tighter control, we would appreciate your comments.

MR. DUDENHEFER: Well, we have found in the past, and Mr. Schafer did let me look over these regulations, and the regulations from what we see this time are very good, and this is the only problem there would be, in the enforcement because after all, if there is no enforcement, it don't make too much difference what the rules



are.

THE CHAIRMAN: Jimmie, I think he is trying to talk to you out there!

MR. LUTTRELL: May I make a suggestion?

THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead, Mr. Clay.

MR. LUTTRELL: The gentlemen and his co-workers or fishermen and other people that are interested might get onto the Budget Committee and onto the Legislature and see if we could get a little extra money in the Conservation Fund and a little extra head count down there, and perhaps you would get one or two of those people and enforcement would be much better, much, much better.

MR. DUDENHEFER: That is true.

MR. LUTTRELL: We could take a little help on that at any time, a little extra money from the Legislature.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Put the emphasis on the money first!

MR. LUTTRELL: Correct. Then when you get the money, go to the Division of Administration and just really bear down on them for a little extra head count, and I will personally try and



get one or two of those men, if you succeed.

MR. DUDENHEFER: We need it throughout the industry, in every aspect of it.

MR. LUTTRELL: Yes, that is our problem.

MR. DUDENHEFER: Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, all we need I believe is just a discussion because we are going to go through the advertisement.

MR. SCHAFER: Yes, because of the advertisement, this is for discussion only and we are going to, if these things are printed in the paper, then anybody interested in any changes, we will have them for the next meeting where we will adopt these regulations or any changed regulations that you all might have before you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Harry. Allan Ensminger.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, we have an offer of some property down in Lafourche Parish being offered to the Commission as a free donation from



Mr. Sam E. Dunnam and Homer G. Moore of Houston, Texas.

This is a tract of land that lies totally within the boundary of our Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and certainly we would recommend to the Commission that you accept this donation of property to us.

THE CHAIRMAN: What size is it, Allan?

MR. ENSMINGER: It is 50 acres, Doyle, and as I say, the property does jut down into the boundary of the game management area and certainly would be very advantageous to the Commission to accept this property and own it. They will prepare a conditional deed of donation to the Commission that would have reversionary rights to the owners if in the future the State of Louisiana no longer used it as a Wildlife Management Area.

Mr. Larry Benson, representing these people, is here today and, of course, all of you are familiar with who Mr. Benson is. He has represented the Russell Sage Foundation for many decades and has had very close working relationships with the Commission at our Marsh Island donation and is



very familiar with the Commission's programs and workings. You may check with Mr. Benson and see if he wants to add anything to this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Benson?

MR. LARRY BENSON: I have nothing to add except the donation is made with reservations.

MR. DUPUY: Reservations of minerals in perpetuity.

MR. ENSMINGER: Right.

THE CHAIRMAN: We need a motion on this then, right?

MR. DUPUY: Yes, I so move, Mr. Chairman, that we accept the donation.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am sure there is nobody opposed. So ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild



Life and Fisheries Commission is authorized by Title 56, 109 as amended by Act 717 of the 1974 Legislature to accept donations of property for wildlife management purposes, and

WHEREAS, a certain tract of land in Lafourche Parish has been offered to the Commission,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that, acting under the authority of Louisiana Revised Statutes (1950), Title 56, 109 as amended by Act 717 of the Louisiana Legislature of 1974 and with the approval of the Governor, this Commission accept a donation of the following described property situated in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana:

A certain tract in T18S - R21E, described as beginning at a point having Lambert coordinates of  $X = 2,307,137.80$  and  $Y =$





299,548.46, said point being  
the northwest corner of the  
herein described tract;

Thence N  $88^{\circ} 32' 50''$  E 2,476.03  
feet to a point having Lambert  
coordinates of X = 2,309,613.04  
and Y = 299,611.24;

Thence S  $01^{\circ} 10' 21''$  E 122.17  
feet to a point having Lambert  
coordinates of X = 2,309,615.54  
and Y = 299,489.10;

Thence West 1,666.84 feet to a  
point having Lambert coordinates  
of X = 2,307,948.70 and Y =  
299,489.10;

Thence South 2,567.54 feet to a  
point having Lambert coordinates  
of X = 2,307,948.70 and Y =  
296,921.56;

Thence S  $88^{\circ} 32' 50''$  W 756.89  
feet to a point having Lambert  
coordinates of X = 2,307,192.05  
and Y = 296,902.37;



Thence N 01° 10' 29" W 2,646.65  
feet to the point of beginning;  
The above described tract contains  
51.50 acres, more or less;  
All bearings and coordinates are  
based on the Lambert Coordinate  
System for Louisiana, South Zone;  
from Homer G. Moore and Sam E. Dunnam,  
of Houston, Texas, for the sole and only  
purpose of adding said property to the  
Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area,  
the donors to reserve, on terms acceptable  
to them, all oil, gas, sulphur, salt  
(including salt brine) and other minerals,  
whether similar or dissimilar, said dona-  
tion to contain the further condition  
that said property shall immediately  
revert to the donors, their heirs,  
successors and assigns, without notice,  
demand, or putting in default, should  
the donated property be used at any time  
for any purpose other than for wildlife  
management for the benefit of the



general public; and be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Mr. Doyle G. Berry, the Chairman, and Mr. J. Burton Angelle, the Director of this Commission, be and they are authorized to execute an appropriate notarial acceptance of the said donation and to do and perform all other acts and things necessary or proper in the premises and in compliance with LA. R. S. 56:109 as amended.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. O'Neil.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, before Mr. O'Neil, who is Chief of our Fur Division, comes to the podium, I would like to make a couple of statements, and it deals with the extension of the trapping season. I have had a number of calls besides a lot of communications by letter and also including a telephone call yesterday from Senator Nunez, representing his people, asking that the trapping season be extended. However, I explained to him that the season was closing on the 28th, we had rules and regulations, the Commission had considered this at the January meeting and for



biological reasons had decided to allow the season to close as scheduled. However, he did ask that I make that statement to the Commission and make that request.

This was discussed fully yesterday at the informal meeting and then after hearing from Mr. Ted O'Neil this morning, then you will make your decision one more time, so I bring it out for the benefit of the Senator and the many people who have called, requesting an extension. There are also many people who have called and requested that the season close on schedule, also, so the decision has to be reached. Thank you.

MR. TED O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, this has been one of the great trapping years and our surveys in the area that is in question, mostly St. Bernard Parish, have shown a small weakness of furbearers. We make a monthly survey over that area every month and then during the trapping season we keep in touch with it closer than that. We can't justify any extension this year from a biological standpoint at all. They have had a good trapping



winter. They had good weather. So it would be my recommendation that we let the season close as is.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anybody in the audience wish to be heard?

(No response)

Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Do I hear a motion? Do we need a motion? We don't need a motion, do we?

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether you need to have a motion but this same matter came up last month and we decided at that time to not extend the season, and again you have the biologist's recommendations that the animals just can't stand additional trapping.

THE CHAIRMAN: If there is no motion, we will just leave it as it is from the January meeting. Thank you, Ted.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: You are reaffirming your position of the January meeting, just for my information.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Joe Herring.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



The first item we have on the agenda is lease renewal forms for the Morehouse Parish School Board for renewal of their lands on the Georgia-Pacific Wildlife Management Area. They have two tracts there, both in Township 21 North, Range 4 East. One of them comprises about 231.76 acres and the other one 639.6 acres, which would be 871.36 acres more or less.

This is a renewal on our wildlife management area. It would be the general form that we use for wildlife management purposes only, land that is given to us free of charge for this purpose. I would recommend to the Commission that we go ahead and accept this renewal on the Georgia-Pacific land.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. LUTTRELL: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell. Do I hear a second?

MR. DUPUY: I will second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, we have received  
lease renewal forms from the Morehouse  
Parish School Board for renewal of  
their lands lying in the Georgia-Pacific  
Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, these leases are the  
standard forms that the Commission uses  
on all of our Wildlife Management Areas  
for hunting right purposes, and

WHEREAS, this land is described  
as a part of the Georgia-Pacific Wild-  
life Management Area, Morehouse Parish,  
for lease renewal, as follows:

Township 21 North, Range 4 East,  
Section 16. All Section lying  
east of Ouachita River, comprising



231.76 acres more or less;

All of Section 16, Township 22  
North, Range 4 East, comprising  
639.6 acres, more or less;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries  
Commission accept this land for a period  
of 7.75 years, free of charge, for wild-  
life management purposes and as part of  
the Georgia-Pacific Wildlife Management  
Area, lease ending on the 30th day of  
September, 1974.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next  
item is the lease renewal in our Cities Service  
Wildlife Management Area, and it consists of three  
individuals who are renewing their leases with us  
on small tracts of land in this area. In many of  
these areas that we have, one company like Cities  
Service, loans us all of their land for wildlife  
management purposes, and a lot of times we have  
10, 20, 40 lying within this that we try to get  
lease agreements on these also, to block the land  
in.





As you know, a month or so ago we renewed our lease on Cities Service and now we have some of the small landowners who we are renewing our leases with. I won't really describe the areas because it is real lengthy here for the small tracts, but I have given them to the court reporter for her to put in. I will give the names. One of them is Mrs. H. D. White, and it is her land in Ouachita Parish, and then Mr. John Thrasher and a Mr. Willie Henson. All the land is described as I gave it to the court reporter, plus on our leases there.

I would recommend to the Commission that we do accept this land within our Cities Service Wildlife Management Area on a typical lease agreement.

MR. DUPUY: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.



(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, we have received from several individuals lease renewal forms for their lands on our Cities Service Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, these leases are the standard form that are used on all of our Wildlife Management Areas for hunting right purposes, and

WHEREAS, these individuals and their land description is as follows:

1. Mrs. H. D. White, land described in Ouachita Parish as follows:  
Township 19 North, Range 4 East,  
N. W. 1/4 of N. E. 1/4, Section 12;  
Township 19 North, Range 5 East,  
S. W. 1/4 of N. E. 1/4, Section 10;
2. Mr. John Thrasher, land described in Ouachita Parish as follows:  
Township 19 North, Range 5 East,  
South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4,  
Section 10;



3. Mr. Willie Henson, land described in Ouachita Parish as follows:  
Township 19 North, Range 4 East,  
West 1/2 Section 24, West 1/2 of  
East 1/2, Section 24;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission accept this land for a period of five years, free of charge, for wildlife management purposes, and as a part of the Cities Service Wildlife Management Area, all leases expiring on the 14th day of November, 1981.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, back in December we had requests from individuals, clubs, police juries and several other people, asking us to look into the areas around Diamond Island-Ione-Somerset, in through there, for possibly having a turkey season. We stocked these areas about five years ago. We have had real good reproduction and our field people have checked that out and we would like to come back and recommend to the Commission now in those general areas there a turkey season



of gobblers only for 16 days, March 26-April 10.

Now this is a liberalization, it is not a change. There has not been a season in there. This is an area we have stocked and we have had, as I said, good reproduction. We feel like when we do have this reproduction we should open the season as soon as possible, because we have found in some release areas that they do build up a population and all of a sudden it will go down, so we feel like harvesting is one of the methods of keeping the populations in control and keeping them on a stable level.

This land will be all Louisiana land south of U. S. Highway 80 from Tallulah to the Mississippi state line and all Louisiana land east of U. S. Highway 65 from Tallulah to State Highway 605, north and east of State Highway 605 to Junction of State Highway 608 to Point Pleasant Road, north of Point Pleasant Road to the Mississippi state line.

I recommend to the Commission that we open this.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is 16 days, gobblers



only, from March 26 to April 10, is that right, Joe?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir.

MR. LUTTRELL: Joe, I want to say something else. I am glad to see this happening. I am really proud that you brought it before us because this now gives the legal hunter an opportunity equal to the poacher.

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. Well, it joins some areas, Mr. Luttrell. Thank you for bringing that up. It joins Area G which is just south of there, where we already have a season, and this is just something, possibly next month, we would like to bring a map to the Commission, showing all of our turkey releases. I think a lot of people would really like to see it.

Sometimes we talk about these releases we have made, and really it is in comparison to the deer program we had 20 or 25 years ago, where we stocked our state with deer and now in most of the state we have fairly good deer seasons, and we are doing the same thing on turkeys, where we have good suitable sites. Next month I will try



to remember to bring a map and just show the Commission and the public and the press and everything where we have actually stocked birds. When you look at the map, it is kind of impressive to see how many birds we have put in the state. We hardly realize it ourselves until we look to see where all of these birds have been trapped out of one area and put in another, stocking the state.

Then the Commission did open up additional areas when setting the seasons this year, this past year. We opened up many additional areas for turkey hunting. This is a sport that was just limited in our state 15 or 20 years ago, in just one or two areas, and now in better than a third of the state now we are having a season, and I think it is real good. We will do that next month, bring that map, and kind of show the Commission.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the  
resolution is here made  
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, in December 1976 we  
were contacted by members of the Diamond  
Island Hunting Club to make a survey of  
their club area to see if their turkey  
population would warrant a 1977 turkey  
hunting season, and

WHEREAS, we have received  
requests from police juries in Madison  
and Tensas Parishes for turkey seasons  
in their parishes, and

WHEREAS, other individuals  
have requested surveys for additional  
open areas, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission stocked  
these areas approximately five years  
ago, and



WHEREAS, reproduction has been good and our District IV field personnel have checked these areas and have recommended a 16-day gobbler only season for March 26-April 10, 1977, and

WHEREAS, this area is described as follows:

All Louisiana land south of U. S. Highway 80 from Tallulah to Mississippi state line;

All Louisiana land east of U. S. Highway 65 from Tallulah to State Highway 605, north and east of State Highway 605 to Junction of State Highway 608, to Point Pleasant Road, North of Point Pleasant Road to Mississippi state line;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission approve the 16-day gobbler only season as described and that such a season be declared an emergency due





to population this area.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. "Muskrat" McGovern is present with us this morning. He is the president of the Wildlife Federation. We are always glad to have you, "Muskrat."

MR. McGOVERN: May I make a comment?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, before Joe retires, it seems to me that on the basis of the reasoning of Clay that they ought to open the turkey season throughout the state, so that the sports hunters and the legal hunters would have the equal opportunity with the violators!

THE CHAIRMAN: Marc, that reminds me the other day Jesse Fontenot was talking to a friend of mine and asked him how he was doing, and he said, "Oh, the hunting is much better now since them other folks got out of the marsh. I get my limit of ducks every day!"

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, I think it would probably be the proper time now, when we



are talking about these poachers, I have a memorandum here from the Chief of Enforcement and he says he attaches the yearly report. In the year '76 there were an additional 4,500 cases made over the year '75, which shows nearly a 25 percent increase in enforcement effort, for a total of 16,000 cases against 12,000 cases, so they are maybe catching some of these poachers here.

THE CHAIRMAN: That 16 looks mighty good. It shows you have done a job, Jim, and we appreciate it. Let's try for 20,000 this year.

MR. McGOVERN: Thank you, Mr. Berry. On behalf of the organized sportsmen, I would like to make a comment in connection with the recommendation I agreed with the Commission on the acquisition of land at a prior meeting, and that recommendation still goes. Of course, I was in the audience. There were various tracts that were offered. It had been my understanding that a certain tract which was later accepted for purchase was sought after for some ten years. It was offered at a good price and probably would not have been able to be offered again under those factors.



On behalf of the organized sportsmen and being asked for an opinion, I agreed that we should recommend and go along with that recommendation, and that still stands.

However, one of our district vice presidents from District 7, Jack Searles from Lake Charles, came down at one of the few meetings I missed and he was supposed to come down today and I came with a bad throat, anyway, in case he was here. I had heard he was on the agenda. His position was, and I thought I might mention it to the Commission, that the Federation had adopted a recommendation that some upland bird areas be secured with a priority basis and he was disappointed, apparently feeling that he had some kind of commitment from personnel that that would be done, and he was a little disappointed that I had on behalf of the Federation gone along with the recommendation we did.

Now I do not regret the recommendation and there is no conflict. What I would like to recommend is that the next monies that are available for land acquisition be given by priority to



the acquisition of upland areas, particularly for birds. Mr. Searles had represented a group that represented at least 2,000 licensed bird hunters in an organized association, and they feel a little disappointed in all of the lowland acquisitions.

I just wanted to make that comment. A second comment, since enforcement was brought up, although my good friend, I am not criticizing him, I have picked up a lot of scuttlebutt and flack about the lack of enforcement in the Lake Pontchartrain area with shrimpers violating the special privilege zone that had been put into effect by the New Orleans Sportsmen's League long ago. I think Mac Duffy had something to do also with getting that protected area long, long ago. It is an awkward situation. I understand that certain people are also baiting trap lines with anything they can catch and catching and eating seagulls. It is a very awkward situation. There is a lot of undercurrent criticism of sportsmen and other people who claim they see this happening constantly and have called and written the Commission and that there is no prosecution or at least education.



Now I am just telling it like it comes to me, for your benefit. I thought it was something I should mention on behalf of the organized sportsmen who do try to uphold the law, and if they don't go get those shrimp or those animals and other people do, naturally they are upset if they feel they get no response to their complaints.

Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, "Muskrat."

Jimmie, would you like to comment on that, please. Come to the podium. The Chief of Enforcement might give you a little enlightenment there.

MR. GILLESPIE: Yes, sir, I am well aware of these complaints and we have answered each and every one of them. In the past two weeks we have seized approximately 6 or 7,000 yards of net in this Lake Pontchartrain area, in the sanctuary, and the people that you have reference to are the Vietnamese. They have been fishing out there, taking the seagulls and so forth. We have a language barrier between our agents and these people. We have explained the law over and over to



them. We have arrested these people. They have been taken to court. The judge can't understand them. The district attorney can't. They release them. They have gone back out and they have violated the law again, but we are working on it.

THE CHAIRMAN: They ought to make some good wildlife agents. You might hire one of them, Jimmie; get one of them to talk to them, like that engineer out in the oilfield.

At this time I think the Director would like to recognize Representative LeBlanc in the audience. We are glad to have you with us.

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, if we had a season on seagulls like we have on grosbeaks, maybe that would help alleviate the situation!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, you will be hearing from this gentleman at the other meeting at the close of this one, but we are honored this morning to have in the audience with us a member of the Legislature and a gentleman that I was privileged to serve with, Representative Sam LeBlanc, representing Jefferson and I think part of Orleans, and I am sure that he would be probably in a



position now that he has visited one of our Commission meetings to introduce legislation dealing with seagulls and the Vietnamese language barrier.

Sam, we are happy to have you here.

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Chairman, before he starts, I would like to ask a question of our Chief. Are you sure that is not sportsmen that are trying to save the roof of the Superdome that are out there catching these seagulls?

REPRESENTATIVE LeBLANC: I have a Popeye's fried seagull franchise!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Also visiting today with us is a gentleman who came over from Paris. His name is Mr. Patrick Mazuka. We also had a language barrier. He came here with the intention of interviewing Mr. Clay Luttrell from north of Alexandria, who speaks no French, and Mr. Mazuka speaks no English! These are some of the outdoor magazines that are put out in France that he brings. He is knowledgeable with wildlife and he is here representing the newspapers and will be here for about six months. He has interviewed some of the Commission members. If you can be of



any assistance to the gentleman, we would certainly appreciate it.

Monsieur Mazuka, stand up, come to the podium, and we would like to hear from you.

MR. LUTTRELL: Mr. Angelle, he makes himself understood much better than we think.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I am just wondering if you understood him also.

MR. LUTTRELL: Well, some of it, but then he didn't understand everything I said, either.

MR. MAZUKA: I am very happy to be with you and I appreciate your welcome. I want to make a good report about the Wild Life and Fisheries, and if you can help me for something, I will be happy. It is very difficult for me.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think you have said enough. Thank you very much. We are glad to have you with us.

(Applause)

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anybody else in the audience wish to be heard this morning? Any comments you want to make?

(No response)





THE CHAIRMAN: The next meeting will be on the 28th and 29th of March. The next gill net meeting is on March 2 at 7:00 p.m. in Baton Rouge, Department of Highways Building.

We will adjourn for five minutes and we will come back into session and then we will take up the hearing on appeal on Gifford-Hill and Company.

. . . . Whereupon, at 10:50  
o'clock a.m., Friday, February  
25, 1977, the regular  
Board meeting of the Commission  
was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing ( 50 pages of typewritten matter) is a true and correct transcription of the tape recording and of the stenographic notes of the proceedings herein, transcribed by me, at the time and place hereinbefore noted.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 16th day of  
March 1977.

*Kathryn G. Chamberlin*  
Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.

